

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Canceled).
3. (Canceled).
4. (Canceled).
5. (Currently amended) An image processing method for adding information to image data, comprising:
altering a process for adding the information in accordance with characteristics of at least one of output means of the image data and input means of the image data, the characteristics of the output means and the input means being specified based on model names of the output means and the input means.
6. (Original) The image processing method according to claim 5, wherein at least one of the output means and the input means is selected by selection means, and
a process for adding the information is performed in accordance with characteristics of the selected output means or the selected input means.
7. (Original) The image processing method according to claim 5, wherein a resolution, and a tone pattern cycle and direction of at least one of the output means and the input means are selected by selection means.
8. (Original) The image processing method according to claim 5, further comprising:
printing out a test pattern in advance by output means that is used;
reading the test pattern by input means; and
altering a process for adding the information in accordance with a result of reading.

9. (Original) The image processing method according to claim 8, wherein the test pattern is a patch or a tone pattern, which includes at least an intermediate level.

10. (New) An image processing apparatus, comprising:
a subjecting device which subjects image data to a predetermined process in accordance with a characteristic of information, characteristics of output means and input means being specified based on model names of the output means and the input means before the information is added;
an adding device which adds the information to the image data that has been subjected to the predetermined process; and
an extracting device which extracts the information from the image data to which the information has been added.

11. (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the information is a frequency component.

12. (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the predetermined process is a process for varying a response by frequency.

13. (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the predetermined process eliminates, from frequency characteristics of the image data, a frequency characteristic that is possibly confused with the information.

14. (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising inputting device which inputs the model names.

15. (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the inputting device includes a control panel.